

## WFWP Ireland, Interfaith Gathering in Dublin Mosque

Doris McCann  
September 13, 2016



We enjoyed a wonderful and very insightful evening in the Tallaght Mosque in Dublin on Tuesday, 13 Sept 2016. It was hosted by the ladies of the Mosque (Muslim Association of Ireland MAI) who had invited WFWP Ireland, the Sisters of Faith for Peace and our guests for an evening marking the occasion of both the Day of Peace and the Islamic Festival Eid-Al-Adha.

We had a great group of ladies from different faith backgrounds, including Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Unificationist faiths, taking a stand for peace together!

Around 7pm, we were warmly welcomed by a number of ladies of the Tallaght Mosque community, and Hajar was then taking us through the program as the MC.

Beside the welcome messages, we were treated to presentations by several Muslim ladies, sharing about different aspects of Islamic understanding and culture.

The first one was an explanation about the background and understanding of Eid-Al-Adha, a major Islamic Festival which had just been celebrated on 11 Sept 2016.

Doris McCann, WFWP Ireland President, then also welcomed everybody, connecting the evening with the Int'l Day of Peace, which is observed worldwide on 21 September. This year's motto focusses on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, being the Building Blocks for Peace. She challenged all of us to make a special effort to reach out to those outside of our own sphere of comfort, while at the same time appreciating who we are ourselves.

After this, we really appreciated learning more about women in Islam, through presentations by two professional Muslim ladies who are working in the fields of law and medicine.

We could learn about famous and very accomplished Muslim women, but also talk about women's rights in Islam, countering a number of common misperceptions.

In the Q&A session that followed, the topic of women in Islam lead to several questions and an interesting exchange, in a very comfortable and friendly setting.

We continued enjoying each other over refreshments until the evening drew to a close.

We really want to express our appreciation to all the ladies from the Tallaght Mosque for all their investment and making us feel so welcome - and also for giving us the opportunity to get to know these wonderful and impressionable Muslim sisters, helping us to dispel the myths and false stereotypes. It was a very memorable experience!

Reported by

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WFWP Ireland President